

25.4: Discussion

Discussion (30 points)

Write a minimum one-page (12 font, single spaced) discussion on the experiment conducted this week. **The assignment will be graded on completeness, clarity of the explanations and the meaningful integration of the collected and calculated data.** Correct grammar and appropriate format for the chemical formulae and chemical reactions is expected. **You may use the outline included at the end of this document on how to build your essay to address each category.**

1. What is spherification?
2. What is sodium alginate used for in daily life? Give at least 2 examples.
3. In what way are the sodium alginate and calcium chloride solutions similar?
4. In what way are the sodium alginate and calcium chloride solutions different?
5. What did you observe over time when popping your spheres?
6. What causes the formation of the spheres?
7. What causes the hardening of the spheres?
8. What determines the shape of the spheres?
9. What would you expect to happen to the spheres if they remain in the air?
10. Were you able to make shapes other than spheres? If yes, how?
11. If you wanted to make other shapes on purpose, how would you do it?
12. What do you think will happen if you added the calcium chloride solution to the sodium alginate solution?
13. What other experiments would you like to conduct on the sodium alginate system?

Recommended discussion outline:

The concepts I used in this experiment were...

The most important aspect of this experiment was...

The purpose of the experiment was (Hint: it was not to make gel spheres) ... By performing this experiment, I learned...

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